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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Adalah ("justice" in Arabic) is an independent human rights organization and legal centre with offices in Haifa in the north and Beer el-Sabe (Beer Sheva) in the south of Israel. Established in November 1996, Adalah serves Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel, numbering 1.2 million people or close to 20 per cent of the population, and Palestinians living in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Adalah's main objectives are to achieve equal individual and collective rights for the Palestinian Arab minority in the State of Israel and to defend the rights of Palestinians living under occupation.

In January 2007, Adalah's Board of Directors decided to expand Adalah's mandate to include the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The formal expansion of the mandate allows Adalah to develop this area of its work systematically and to become an important address for Palestinian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in impact litigation cases to be brought before the Israeli courts.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Throughout 2005, Adalah, as a part of the Working Group on the Status of Palestinian Women Citizens of Israel, contributed to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. In 2005, the Working Group submitted an NGO alternative report to the Committee's pre-sessional task force; and an Adalah staff attorney attended the Committee's country review of the State of Israel, which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel in 1967. Also in 2005, Adalah submitted briefing papers on our Supreme Court litigation concerning the rights of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory to the Special Rapporteur in preparation for his reports and statements at the sixty-first session of the Commission for Human Rights, held in Geneva. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights: Adalah delivered two written and oral interventions at the sixty-first session of the Commission on the rights of Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel and of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In 2006, Adalah submitted four further written interventions at the sixty-second and final session of the Commission, one jointly with Al-Haq and another jointly with the Habitat International Coalition.

The United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories. Adalah's General Director gave testimony before the Committee in July 2005, November 2006 and July 2007, analysing significant developments in Israeli Supreme Court jurisprudence and legislation enacted by the Israeli parliament, and selected cases litigated by Adalah, including the revocation of Palestinians' Jerusalem residency rights, and the ban on family unification between Palestinians.

In June 2008, an Adalah staff attorney testified before the Committee, focusing on a legal analysis of recent Israeli Supreme Court cases dealing with the status of Gaza.

In December 2005, Adalah submitted an NGO alternative report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in advance of its preparation of its List of Issues and Questions for the State of Israel. In February 2007, Adalah submitted a follow-up report to the Committee, and an Adalah staff attorney and Adalah's International Advocacy Director attended the Committee's review of the State of Israel at its seventieth session, in Geneva.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions: In January 2006, Adalah submitted a dossier of information to the Special Rapporteur on the fatal shootings of 13 Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel in October 2000 and a follow-up letter in November 2006; additional information was provided to the Special Rapporteur in 2008.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the State of Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory in November 2006. On the occasion, Adalah requested intervention in five key human rights issues affecting Palestinians.

In February 2007, Adalah presented the Chairperson of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child with six short position papers on issues affecting Arab children in the State of Israel.

The United Nations Special Representative on minority rights: In December 2007, Adalah's General Director participated as an expert consultant at a meeting held in Geneva, with the Special Representative on a wide range of issues concerning Palestinians and the denial or deprivation of citizenship, including the problem of citizenship for Palestinian refugees, Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel and Palestinians living in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on religious freedom visited Adalah's offices in January 2008 for a briefing at which Arab religious leaders and Adalah urged that discrimination against Arab religious communities cease.

In February 2008, Adalah and partner Al-Haq and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights-Gaza submitted a joint briefing paper to the United Nations Human Rights Council analysing the Israeli Supreme Court's decision of 30 January 2008 to reject a petition challenging fuel and electricity cuts to the Gaza Strip.

In September 2008, Adalah submitted an NGO alternative report to the United Nations Committee against Torture. In November 2008, an Adalah staff attorney and additional representatives from the Committee against Torture coalition, including Al-Haq, introduced the main issues contained in the report to the Committee's Country Rapporteurs on the State of Israel and international NGOs working to eradicate torture, in Geneva.

In July 2008, Adalah submitted an NGO report to the United Nations Human Rights Council's universal periodic review to assist in the first review of the State of Israel under the universal periodic review mechanism. In December 2008, an Adalah staff attorney attended the universal periodic review session in Geneva and introduced Adalah's report.

The United Nations Human Rights Council Forum on Minority Issues: In December 2008, an Adalah staff attorney participated as an expert at the inaugural session of

the Forum in Geneva. Experts from around the world were invited to comment on a draft recommendation on minorities and the right to education that may be adopted as an authoritative interpretation of international human rights law. Adalah provided interventions on budgets, access to education for girls, and curriculum development.

2. Greek Council for Refugees (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

The Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) continues to support, at the operational level, one of the main goals and objectives of the United Nations: the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol of 1967.

Significant changes in the organization: (a) Constitution: the organization's aims and purposes remained the same; (b) Governing Board: A new Governing Board was elected following the GCR General Assembly of 2007; (c) membership: The total number has grown to 109, currently; (d) areas of activities: while its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities remained the same, GCR has expanded its range in Greece; it has also enhanced significantly its cooperation with non-Greek NGOs and its operations extended to other countries. Furthermore, its advocacy role has been strengthened; (e) sources of funding: GCR continued its efforts to seek alternative funding, mainly from the private sector. In 2008, the total cost of its programmes was euros 1,769,377, provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 2.68 per cent; GCR 0.05 per cent; European Union 25.68 per cent; Government 55.72 per cent; private sector 15.87 per cent.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: GCR activities continued to focus on the protection and integration of refugees on the basis of the 1951 Geneva Convention and the New York Protocol. In practice, activities may be divided into three broad categories, even though they are complementary to each other and often intertwined.

Legal services: (a) facilitation of access to the asylum procedure and provision of initial orientation and guidance to newly arrived individuals; (b) provision of legal assistance and legal representation, free of charge, to newcomers and to established refugees and asylum-seekers, as appropriate: at the first degree of examination of their application; before the ad hoc advisory committee (the "Appeals Board") at the second degree; and/or before the courts or other authorities, such as the Council of State; (c) As many clandestine immigrants arrive at greatly dispersed border areas of Greece, GCR makes available, in consultation with UNHCR and the competent Ministries, provision of legal assistance and case assessment from its main resources; and through a country-wide network of legal aid for the provision of efficient assistance to asylum-seekers, in outlying areas; (d) monitoring of political/legislative developments and organization/participation in informative seminars.

Social services: The aim of the department is to facilitate the integration and attainment of independence of asylum-seekers, refugees and those admissible under humanitarian status, on an individual or group basis. The Central Social Service

provides counselling and information, intervenes in institutions and services on behalf of the people served (in relation to educational, health, employment issues, etc.): extensive sessions with individuals/families cover counselling and information; while interventions with the pertinent authorities regarding health issues (i.e., medical tests, treatments, medical attendance, etc.) assists daily newcomers and other refugees and asylum-seekers.

The reception of newcomers focuses mainly on ensuring accommodation in reception centres and temporary accommodation.

Integration: The "PYXIDA" (compass) Intercultural Centre facilitates integration through activities such as the instruction of the Greek language, tutorial teaching, setting up and operation of hobby groups, cultural activities, etc. Children were prepared, mainly with lessons of Greek, inter alia, in order to enable them to enrol in Greek schools. In addition, lessons of Greek for adults, English, French, German, and the use of computers were offered.

Accommodation for vulnerable cases of asylum-seekers: GCR developed and operated a programme in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity, providing temporary housing in the area of Athens and in relevant reception centres. A total of 407 persons were offered services during 2008.

Employment: The Employment Service seeks job placement for refugees with emphasis also given to the preparation of women refugees for employment.

"Iolaos" programme for the psychosocial rehabilitation of refugees with mental disorders: An innovative programme for the rehabilitation of refugees with mental disorders started in 2001 and continues to the present. The "Iolaos" consists of a hostel for in-patient care, a day centre for outpatient services and protected apartments for persons ready to move from the hostel to independent but supervised quarters. The Unit operates with professionally qualified staff under the supervision of a psychiatrist and the therapeutic programmes are drawn up on the basis of each refugee's particular needs, combined with the integration process.

Presence of GCR in wider collaborations: (a) National Committee on Human Rights: GCR is one of the six NGO members. At deliberations of the various NCHR departments, GCR representatives have taken an active role in raising issues and submitting recommendations for the improvement of legislation and of practices relating to refugees and asylum-seekers; (b) International Development Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece: GCR participated in the NGO National Counselling Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with all the NGOs that are registered in the International Development Cooperation Department. GCR is also a member of the NGOs Network of European Orientation organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and (c) cooperation with other NGOs which contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. GCR participated and/or collaborated in programmes with international and national NGOs, including the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) that focused on the protection of refugees.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies: The main partner of GCR remains the UNHCR. It participated and collaborated actively at the local level, at its headquarters annual meetings of the Executive Committee in Geneva and in other meetings of United Nations agencies, based on their relevancy and its financial capacity at the time or reporting.

Sensitization and public awareness of refugee issues: Participated in and/or organized public discussions for this purpose. It has also developed a programme of awareness among schoolchildren with the organization of meetings and other events in schools.

3. Human Rights Watch (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Human Rights Watch (HRW) is dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights around the world. HRW investigates and exposes human rights violations in some 80 countries. The organization stands with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, uphold political freedom, protect those subject to unlawful conduct during wartime and to help bring offenders to justice. On 26 November 2008, HRW won the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights in recognition of its outstanding achievement in human rights. HRW is the largest international human rights organization based in the United States. It began in 1978 with the founding of its Europe and Central Asia division (then known as Helsinki Watch). Today, HRW is divided into regional and thematic programmes. Regional divisions are: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa and the United States of America. Thematic programmes are arms; business and human rights; children's rights; emergencies; health and human rights; international justice; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights; refugees; terrorism and counter-terrorism; and women's rights.

HRW is based in New York City and has offices and staff in Abidjan, Bangkok, Beirut, Berlin, Bishkek, Brussels, Cairo, Chicago, Geneva, Goma, Johannesburg, Kigali, London, Los Angeles, Moscow, Paris, San Francisco, Tokyo, Toronto and Washington, D.C. HRW is an independent NGO, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. It does not accept government funds, either directly or indirectly.

Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: (a) Throughout this reporting period, HRW representatives participated in the sessions of the Human Rights Council and its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights. HRW monitored and participated in the institution-building process that led to the creation of the Human Rights Council and the adoption of its institution-building package. HRW representatives also participated in sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and meetings of the Executive Committee of UNHCR; (b) Each year, HRW made oral interventions and submitted written statements to the Commission on Human Rights and Human Rights Council, including statements on the rights of minorities, gender integration, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and issues dealing with individual country situations. It submitted many statements as part of the Universal Periodic Review process at the HRC and sponsored and participated in side events at the HRC on issues such as ensuring human rights in drug policy and human rights and business (2008), the Iraqi refugee

crisis (2007) and the human rights situation in Sri Lanka (2006); (c) representatives of HRW meetings of the Preparatory Committee, the 2006 High-Level Meeting on AIDS in New York, the United Nations 2005 World Summit, held in New York and several other United Nations meetings; (d) delivered presentations, including at a training session by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) (2006), and at the "New Human Rights Dialogue Series" (2008).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: (a) HRW frequently provided information to the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and various treaty bodies. We regularly attended sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee against Torture and other treaty committees, submitting information and providing responses to inquiries. HRW met and shared its reports with the Chairs of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and with various thematic and country Special Rapporteurs and independent experts; (b) maintained contact with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNHCR and the office of the Secretary-General, keeping them abreast of HRW findings and presenting recommendations on various issues; (c) participated in the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children (2004-2006); (d) HRW also provided information to representatives of the Secretary-General, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict; (e) consulted with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on a number of issues, including child soldiers, child labour and police violence against street children, and made a statement on violence against children at a meeting of the UNICEF executive board (2007); (f) provided human rights materials to other United Nations bodies such as UNHCR, UNDP and OCHA. At country level, HRW representatives frequently consulted with and provided information to United Nations officials at all levels, including Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, United Nations agency heads and others; (g) advocated for the implementation of human rights resolutions adopted by the HRC and the General Assembly. HRW also supported General Assembly action for United Nations gender reform within the context of system-wide coherence; (h) HRW also engaged with the United Nations Security Council, including through Arria Formula meetings, which allow NGOs to present information and proposals to members of the Council. In the last four years, HRW representatives made presentations at numerous Arria Formula meetings, including those on Chad and the Central African Republic, Somalia, the responsibility to protect, peace and security in the Great Lakes region and strengthening international law; (i) was engaged with the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict regarding the implementation of resolution 1612 (2005). HRW also supported the adoption of Security Council resolution 1820 (2008); (j) attached great importance to the creation of the International Criminal Court and actively called upon States Members of the United Nations to ratify the Rome Statute. Since the establishment of the International Criminal Court in 2002, HRW has maintained regular contacts with the court's officers. In addition, HRW regularly met with representatives of States parties to the Rome Statute to discuss issues relevant to the execution of the court's mandate, such as state cooperation in a number of areas, including the arrest of suspects. HRW also advocated with States parties to the Rome Statute to ensure that in those countries where the International

Criminal Court may have jurisdiction, justice for the worst crimes in violation of international law remains a priority in political negotiations aimed at ending the underlying conflict; (k) maintained contact with the staffs of the ad hoc International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda. HRW expert testimony and legal analysis was used by judges in a number of tribunal judgements. HRW staff members frequently met with the chief prosecutors to discuss efforts to investigate and prosecute rape as a war crime, witness protection and a range of other issues. HRW also provided legal analysis and reports to the United Nations Special Court for Sierra Leone.

4. Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Mission: The Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba Foundation) is an indigenous peoples' organization and a research, education, and policy advocacy and resource centre working with indigenous peoples at all levels and arenas. We seek the recognition and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights and aspirations while building unities to uphold social and environmental justice. We shall achieve this by reinforcing the capacities of indigenous peoples for advocacy, campaigns and networking; research, education, training and institutional development; and by actively articulating and projecting indigenous peoples' views and aspirations. **Vision**: A world where indigenous knowledge and indigenous peoples' rights are respected and protected by all nations and societies; where there are unified yet diverse and vibrant indigenous peoples' movements at the local and global levels which enhance the self-determination and sustainable development of indigenous peoples and their territories.

Aims of the organization: To achieve its mission through the various desks that it has set up during the reporting period: Networking, Advocacy and Campaigns; Research, Education and Documentation; Publications; Gender; Legal Desk; and Resource Centre. For the reporting period, some areas of activities were expanded. In 2005, a new project called the Indigenous Peoples Capacity-Building and Advocacy Project on the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity was set up. This project sought, among other things: to enable indigenous peoples to be engaged in the implementation of the Convention of the national level. This project, currently in its second phase (2008-2009), increased Tebtebba's involvement in the Convention and also in national efforts towards its implementation.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: The organization's representatives attended/participated in the following.

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, at United Nations Headquarters, New York: fourth session, 2005. Tebtebba Foundation's Executive Director was appointed as a Forum member by the Council for the term 2005-2007 and was elected as Chairperson of the Forum for the session; at the fifth, sixth and

seventh sessions (2006-2008), it made relevant submissions for inclusion in reports of the Forum.

Convention on Biological Diversity: (a) sixth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, 2008, Geneva; (b) ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2008, Bonn, Germany; (c) fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, 2007, Montreal, Canada; (d) fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, 2007, Montreal, Canada. At the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, Tebtebba Foundation organized the side event on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations, twenty-third session, 2005, Geneva.

Sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly: Tebtebba Executive Director participated, 2007, and worked towards the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2007: United Nations Climate Change Conference, 2007, Bali Indonesia, organized a side event on local adaptation and mitigation measures of indigenous peoples on climate change; 2008: Climate Change Talks, in Bonn, Germany; Accra and Bangkok; and the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznań, Poland.

Universal Periodic Review: supported the Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) of Indonesia in its submission at the first session of the Universal Periodic Review held in 2008, in Geneva.

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: seventy-first session, 2007, Geneva, supported AMAN in its submission entitled "Request for Consideration of the Situation of Indigenous Peoples in Kalimantan, Indonesia, under the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's Urgent Action and Early Warning Procedures".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) — In 2005, IFAD supported the project on Good Practices on Indigenous Peoples' Development, which was implemented by Tebtebba Foundation with the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. It supported the Assessment of the first International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, which was undertaken by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and Tebtebba Foundation in 2005-2006.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity — The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity supported the activities organized by Tebtebba — the International Expert Seminar on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Millennium Development Goals, in 2006 in Banaue, Philippines.

United Nations University — In 2008, UNU co-organized with the Tebtebba Foundation, two consultations with indigenous peoples on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), held in Baguio City, Philippines. In 2008, UNU co-published with Tebtebba "REDD: A Guide for Indigenous Peoples".

Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues — Tebtebba maintained close working relationship with the Secretariat of the Forum and it supported activities of Tebtebba as described above.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people: 2007, Tebtebba Foundation organized the Philippine follow-up visit of the special representative.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: Tebtebba worked towards the elaboration of indicators of well-being for indigenous peoples. It identified data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples as a priority and undertook a pilot project in the Philippines in 2005-2006; among other activities and events, described above, in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Activities in support of global principles: Actively promoted the International Day of the World's Indigenous People (9 August), the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005-2014) and the popularization of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; several activities attended by indigenous peoples, government agencies, NGOs and United Nations agencies and multilateral bodies were held in 2006, in Manila; as well as the Indigenous Peoples' Film Festival, in 2007 and 2008 in the Philippines.

5. International Academy of Architecture (Special; 1989)

I. Introduction

The International Academy of Architecture (IAA) was founded in 1987.

Active individual members: 73 academicians and 82 professors from: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, leading Masters of world contemporary architecture.

Governing bodies: General Assembly (sessions every three years), Academic Council (sessions every year). The IAA has centres in France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Turkey and the United States of America.

Aims of the organization: (a) stimulate architecture and architectural theory; (b) support the United Nations, Economic and Social Council, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), UNICEF programmes, declarations, resolutions and events; (c) organize the World Triennial of Architecture "Interarch-Sofia" — every three years under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, UNECSO and the International Union of Architects (UIA); (d) organize post-graduate courses (workshops) for young, talented architects from different countries, under the leadership of outstanding IAA members; (e) organize international conferences, competitions, exhibitions, discussions, and round tables on the problems of contemporary world architecture.

Main IAA activities are in the field of: (a) sustainable development of architecture and town planning; (b) architectural theory and its criticism; (c) architectural education and professional qualification; (d) social housing; (e) architecture and ecology; (f) architecture and children; and (g) professional information.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: At every "Interarch-Sofia" International Forum, the IAA underlined in all the papers of IAA members on the architecture of the twenty-first century, the Millennium Development Goals. This is the contribution of IAA to the Millennium Development Goal Programme and discussions and round table on low-cost housing, children and architecture, as well as schools projects architecture and ecology, human housing, and environment sustainability.

It was not possible for IAA representatives to take part regularly in the UN-Habitat conferences and meetings, as IAA is a self-financing NGO with a very restricted budget, but IAA remained informed about the United Nations and its agencies, declarations and programmes, connected with architecture.

Other IAA professional activities: (a) World Triennial of Architecture (mentioned above). The IAA President once again underlined the main goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), officially launched on 1 March 2005, in New York; (b) it also successfully organized in cooperation with the Colegio di Arquitectos and Municipality of Culiacan, Mexico, in 2005, an international competition on City and Land Urban opportunities; (c) and in 2005, organized in Nagoya, Japan, in cooperation with the IAA centre in Japan and the Municipality of Nagoya, an international forum-competition. After every IAA event the participants were interviewed by different media; (d) it also organized in Istanbul an international conference on the architecture of the twenty-first century, as well as in Turin, in 2008; (e) IAA members took an active part in the annual Russian festival of architecture, Zodchestvo, every October from 2005 to 2008 in Moscow; (f) organized an international conference, in cooperation with the Municipality of Rome and the IAA Centre in Italy, in 2006; (g) in cooperation with the Megacities Foundation, the IAA centre in Rotterdam, Netherlands, organized an annual international conference on the significant problems of the mega-cities; (h) participation of IAA President in the International Forums of Krasnodar (2007 and 2008), Russian Federation; (i) International Forum of Young Architects organized a workshop for talented young architects in 2007 in Sochi, Russian Federation, on the theme "Krasnodar — city of 21st century" and "Olympic Stadium in Sochi", in which 15 young architects from Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Poland and the Russian Federation took part; (j) successfully organized a workshop in 2008 in Sofia on effective architecture and intelligent buildings with the participation of talented young architects from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland and the Russian Federation; (k) This unique exhibition was presented in many countries; (l) in addition, IAA published the architectural magazine "World Architecture Masters" (WAM), which includes IAA news, architectural information about IAA activity and events, as well as the new architectural masterpieces of world architecture; (m) at its tenth Assembly, in 2006, IAA members approved very active and ambitious working programmes for the future, concerning the most important problems of our society. The IAA operative structure and secretariat will do their best to successfully implement these resolutions.

6. United for Intercultural Action (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

United for Intercultural Action (UNITED) is the only pan-European anti-racism network, currently of 569 network organizations from 46 European countries. It is an open network that unites organizations, institutes and informal groups throughout Europe in their fight against racism, fascism, nationalism and related intolerance and to support migrants, refugees and minority groups. Linked through UNITED, hundreds of organizations from a wide variety of backgrounds work together on a voluntary basis.

Aims of the organization: UNITED is specialized in the empowering and capacity-building of local grass-roots organizations and acts as an exchange platform of good practice, expertise, know-how and training on different levels. The UNITED Network creates tools and sets up specific projects and campaigns addressing the individual needs of stakeholders in the European anti-discrimination movement. UNITED brings together experts and activists from organizations all over Europe in two to three large-scale conferences a year; coordinates three European-wide campaigns to raise awareness about the topics addressed in mainstream media and the general public, as well as diverse activities planned during the above-mentioned conferences; and acts as an information desk for the European anti-discrimination movement.

UNITED keeps an extensive up-to-date database with data on more than 10,000 contacts active in the field and a large archive of printed materials and expert sources from about 2,200 contacts. The activities of the network organizations are supported by the production of educative information and networking tools, such as the annual *European Address Book against Racism*, the regular published *Calendar of Internationalism*, campaign material (newspaper, posters, stickers, postcards are distributed throughout Europe in large quantities) and practical "info-leaflets". These materials and tools are distributed through a reliable (postal) mailing system to 2,200 active contacts in the field. Furthermore, the organization reaches out electronically (regular e-news through targeted mailing lists) and traditional means of communication (telephone and facsimile) to more than 8,000 contacts, including grass-roots organizations, youth groups, educational institutes, journalists, media, local politicians, ministers and members of European parliaments, among others.

Financial contributions are sought from a wide range of supporting organizations, foundations and individuals, national ministries, the Council of Europe and the Commission of the European Union. UNITED has participatory status at the Council of Europe and is an elected member in the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

In the period 2005-2008, UNITED organized and coordinated two European-wide social awareness campaigns related to United Nations International Days: (a) 21 March was declared International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a reaction to the murder of 69 anti-apartheid demonstrators in Sharpeville, South Africa, in 1960. UNITED cherishes this International Day by organizing annually around that

date the European-wide Action Week Against Racism. The Action Week has become the broadest annual anti-racism campaign in Europe, inviting hundreds of organizations and thousands of people to become active to promote the values of equality, respect and diversity and to actively fight racism and discrimination; (b) In 2001 a special United Nations General Assembly resolution was adopted to declare the former African Refugee Day as International Refugee Day as an expression of solidarity with Africa, which hosts the most refugees. The General Assembly noted that 2001 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and that the Organization of African Unity had agreed to have International Refugee Day coincide with African Refugee Day on 20 June. UNITED organized and coordinated an annual European-wide campaign around this date. This campaign aimed to highlight the issues of refugees from a non-governmental perspective on all levels — local, national and European; (c) The *Calendar of Internationalism* is an ongoing project of the UNITED Network and acts as a public source and information tool about events within the European anti-discrimination movement. Besides other events, the calendar promoted information on United Nations human rights meetings and relevant activities of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies. Besides the weekly updated online version of the *Calendar*, UNITED published and disseminated four to six printed editions a year; (d) The *European Address Book against Racism* is one of the best-known and most widely used reference books in the anti-discrimination movement throughout Europe. It provided detailed contact data and information about active groups, institutions and NGOs in Europe and their operative fields. The *Address Book* promoted contact information to all European offices of UNHCR and other relevant United Nations bodies (e.g., UNICEF, UNESCO and the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service).

All European offices of UNHCR and the central offices of UNHCR and OHCHR are on the UNITED mailing list and receive news of the NGOs working against intolerance and discrimination in Europe, as well as all publications produced by UNITED (*Address Book against Racism*, *Calendar of Internationalism*, campaign material, etc.). There is an active exchange of information especially with the European Union office of UNHCR. Other United Nations offices have also included UNITED on their regular mailing lists.